Reviewer's report

**Title:** The Brustkrebs-Studien.de website for breast cancer patients: User acceptance of a German internet portal offering information on the disease and treatment options, and a clinical trials matching service

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 13 September 2010

**Reviewer:** Erich Solomayer

**Reviewer's report:**

Thank you for inviting me to review this interesting paper reporting the first results on user acceptance of a German internet portal for, primarily, breast cancer patients seeking information on the disease and its treatment and considering participation in a clinical trial.

I consider this work as relevant research into current efforts to utilise online channels to provide expert-written information on breast cancer and its treatment and up-to-date information on ongoing and planned trials as well as offering patients the possibility to contact breast specialists and clinical investigators and interact with them. The Brustkrebs-Studien.de initiative as such is to be applauded, and the findings reported in this manuscript will interest many readers.

Thus this article addresses a topic that is relevant and newsworthy to the readership of BMC Cancer, not least because the BKS portal can serve as a model for similar websites tailored to patients with other cancers.

In my opinion, the authors have addressed their objectives and laid the groundwork for a national registry for ongoing and completed clinical breast cancer trials with important implications for both research and health professionals, and they also point to the next phase of work in this area.

The manuscript is well written, but there are some issues, outlined below, that the authors need to address. I have also made a few suggestions on how to improve manuscript readability, provide the non-specialist readers with additional context and highlight the important contributions of this work.

Overall, I recommend publication of this manuscript in BMC Cancer once these issues have been addressed and the necessary revisions made. I see no significant deficiencies. These comments are intended as constructive criticism and I hope they will be received positively.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.